Private participation in power transmission

3147. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Power Grid Corporation has sought the entry of private players into the power transmission business;

(b) the details of the efforts of Power Grid Corporation to involve private companies in power transmission;

(c) what step does Power Grid Corporation propose to dilute its stake in this business;

(d) whether Power Grid Corporation has also offered to sell some of its existing transmission network; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. PGCIL has sought the entry of Private Companies in setting up a few transmission facilities through Joint Venture and 100% private sector participation (i.e. Independent Transmission Company) Route. Details are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Statement

Private participation in Power Transmission

Details of the efforts of Power Grid Corporation to involve private companies in power transmission

- Specific Transmission Lines associated with Tala HEP, East-North Inter Connector and Northern Region Transmission System, covering areas in Eastern Region and Northern Region have been taken up through Joint Venture route. The project is already under advance stage of execution.

- Specific Transmission Lines associated with Parbati-II (800 MW) HEP and Koldam (800 MW) HEP, covering areas in Northern Region, are proposed to be executed on JV route.
- Specific Transmission Lines associated with Maithon Thermal Power Station (1000 MW), covering areas in Eastern Region & Northern Region, are proposed to be executed on JV Route.
- Transmission Lines associated with Western Region System Strengthening Scheme-II (Part B & C) have been taken up on IPTC route. NIT has been issued on Cost based International Competitive Bidding Basis on 21.11.05.
- A number of private companies, who are setting up power generation facilities, have approached PGCIL for setting up of the transmission systems on Joint Venture Route, with the private companies being majority partners. Discussions are underway and are at varying stages for formation of Joint Ventures.

Replacement of words in Electricity Act

3148. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has sent a set of proposals to various Ministries for replacing certain words in the Electricity Act to reduce the independence and powers of regulator;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposals have been vetted by the Law Ministry; and

(d) if so, what are the comments made by the Law Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) There is no proposal to amend the Electricity Act, 2003 to reduce the independence and powers of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.